

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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ADVANCE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Calcium-25*[®] Shown to Increase Biomass in Switchgrass for Cellulosic Ethanol**

FALLS CHURCH, VA – Bio-Gard Agronomics, Inc., has announced that, in addition to increasing the yields of all crops, its ***Calcium-25*[®]** foliar supplement products will greatly benefit future ethanol fuel costs, not only with corn production, but also with promising crops for cellulosic ethanol such as *switchgrass*. Preliminary results by Bio-Gard show up to 53% increases in growth and biomass of newly planted switchgrass.

With rapidly rising fossil fuel prices imposed by domestic corporations and dependence on foreign oil, interests in alternative energy resources point toward fuels that are renewable, affordable, and non-polluting. The most viable of these is ethanol production from grain, mainly corn, with research underway for more affordable ethanol from cellulose.

***Calcium-25*[®]** was developed by Dr. Andrew J. Welebir, founder and President of Bio-Gard, and was introduced to the farm and garden market in 1981. Increases in profits have

consistently been observed in the field using **Calcium-25[®]**, boosting marketable yields of all crops by 20 to 50% or more.

Much of the study on mass producing alcohol from farm products has been underway in grain producing states, notably those in the northern and central Midwest, where mostly corn is used, and switchgrass is showing promise. Also, cellulosic ethanol from farm waste, such as that left after corn harvest for example, may show value as a result of this type of research.

Ethanol (grain alcohol) was the first fuel used in internal combustion engines for farm machinery and the first automobiles over 100 years ago. Surprisingly, in view of the recent outrageous fuel costs and profits to oil companies, the full potential of alcohol fuels receives little or no attention from the media in most parts of the country. Ethanol, which is potentially able to replace most petroleum-based fuels, is also clean burning and releases none of the *cancer-causing* by-products into the environment like fossil fuels produce upon combustion. Bio-fuels (ethanol and biodiesel from soybeans) can be used in much the same way as gasoline, diesel fuel, heating oil, and natural gas – all from renewable resources from the farm. Furthermore, this could greatly reduce the repeating problems of environmental damage from oil spills and air pollution as biodiesel and E85 (85% ethanol, 15% gasoline) fuels becomes more popular.

Alcohol-powered vehicles will start to appear in larger numbers for 2008 from American manufacturers such as GM and Ford. Henry Ford's first cars were run on ethanol, and the Model T could be run on gasoline or alcohol. These "flex fuel" vehicles will rely on grain production, especially corn and other crops, as the renewable resources to produce fuel. New demand for these crops will become apparent, since more will be needed to feed a fuel-hungry nation. **Calcium-25[®]** was developed as an affordable

means to increase grain production up to 33% on corn alone, using just small amounts of this *organic* product in water and spraying the solution on the crop at an early stage of growth.

Calcium-25[®] consists of a calcium source bound to certain natural plant wax compounds. Absorption of these waxes through the leaf surface at certain temperatures with the calcium attached accounts for the unique uptake and *translocation* of calcium within the plant – even from leaves to roots. This results in a rapid spurt in plant growth and an increase in protein and sugar levels (BRIX) which are measurable in as little as a few days after foliar application. Also, sugar content is a major factor in the fermentation process to produce ethanol.

Calcium-25[®] causes a rapid increase of all nutrients from the soil, even calcium-rich soils. This produces a stronger, healthier crop at an early stage of plant development, leading to an increase in yield and profit. Results have been confirmed by a number of university and grower studies worldwide for 25 years. Drought resistance has been recently reported with crops sprayed with **Calcium-25[®]** due to increases in growth of the root system.

The product's effectiveness is dependent on the spray concentration in water. Typically, a one-pound of the water-soluble **Calcium-25[®]** concentrate is diluted, with *no other additives*, to 100 U.S. gallons of water for switchgrass and most other crops, however, corn requires even less. Most plants are sprayed early in the growing season, but some benefit from multiple applications on crops such as alfalfa, hay and grasses, pasture, fruit trees, and some vegetables, showing even better yield increases. Furthermore, **Calcium-25[®]** became an organic-approved material starting in 1990, and is presently listed with the

Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI), and approved for use on USDA Organic crops.

Calcium-25[®] is offered as 5 different products useful for all crops and plants, including field corn, soybeans, alfalfa, pasture and grasses, sorghum, small grains, wheat, rice, vegetables, ornamentals, nursery plants, landscaping, golf courses, apples, fruit trees, and even peanuts, and cotton. Products are available from a small garden size to a 200-acre size for field crops at a price as little as about \$3 to \$5 per acre.

For further information, contact Bio-Gard at 1-800-673-8502, FAX: 703-356-1094, E-mail: Calcium25@aol.com, or mail requests to P.O. Box 4477, Falls Church, VA 22044-0477. A large amount of information is available on the firm's web site: www.Calcium25.com. Distributors can also request a free DVD which covers almost every aspect of the product and its uses, with a complete information package.

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